

REMARKS

Status of the Claims

Claims 2, 4-10, 24-43, 49-60, 63-66, 68-75 were pending. As shown above, claims 2, 4-8 and 41 have been canceled, without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 9, 24, 27, 42, 43 and 49 have been amended to depend from allowable claims 68-75. As the amendments do not add any new matter, entry thereof after final is in order. Thus, 9, 10, 24 to 40, 42, 43, 49 to 60, 63 to 66 and 68 to 75 are pending as shown above.

Rejections Withdrawn

Applicants note with appreciation that the obviousness-type double patenting rejection has been withdrawn. (Final Office Action, page 2). In addition, the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(b) and 103(a) have also been withdrawn. *Id.*

35 U.S.C. § 112, 1st paragraph, written description

Previous claims 2, 4, 7-10, 24-43 and 49-60 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 1st paragraph as allegedly not adequately described by the as-filed specification was maintained for the reasons of record. (Final Office Action, pages 6-7).

The pending claims all depend directly or ultimately claims 68 and 69, which the Examiner has repeatedly indicated are allowable. Accordingly, the written description rejection has been obviated and withdrawal thereof is requested.

CONCLUSION

In light of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner contemplates other action, or if a telephone conference would expedite allowance of the claims, Applicants invite the Examiner to contact the undersigned.

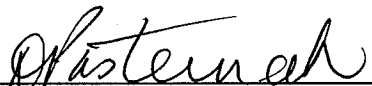
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees and credit any overpayment of fees which may be required under 37 C.F.R. §1.16, §1.17, or §1.21, to Deposit Account No. 18-1648.

Please direct all further written communications regarding this application to:

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Respectfully submitted,

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